
Board Report - April 14, 2021

I am pleased to report on the work of the Board since our last update.

Liaison and Advocacy

Trustees have been actively advocating for our staff and students over the past few weeks and have represented the Board and district at the BCSTA and BCPSEA, as well as meetings with Public Health and Fraser Health, and district and stakeholder committees and meetings.

Last week on April 7th, the Board met with members of the CUPE executive at its annual liaison meeting. This provided an opportunity to have a productive discussion on topics such as staffing, budgets, school planning and, of course, the pandemic and its impact on our support staff.

COVID-19

During spring break, the Board continued its advocacy and was very pleased to receive and share news that all Surrey School District staff at school sites would be given priority to receive their COVID-19 immunizations. To date, every employee in a school who wishes to be vaccinated should have received their vaccination and we are working with health to make sure all are accommodated. The vaccinations were well received, and we believe over 90% of school-based staff chose to get vaccinated. In addition, we were pleased to be able to enhance the safety of our students and staff through a specific Order for Surrey Schools expanding the requirement for all K-12 staff and all students in grades 4-12 to wear face coverings in all indoor areas while they are at school.

Maddaugh Elementary

Following spring break, we were very pleased to see Maddaugh Elementary open its doors to approximately 300 students. The new school is an important addition to the Clayton area and eases the overcrowding at nearby elementary schools. The Ministry of Education contributed \$23.8 million while the district provided an additional \$7.4 million to fund the new school which provides 25 additional classrooms that are much needed in this growing neighbourhood.

Thank you.